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PATENT
Atty. Docket No.: 203-2709 CON (2666 CON)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): David C. Racenet, et al. Examiner: N. Chukwurah
Serial No.: 10/783,126 Group Art Unit: 3721
Filed: February 20, 2004 Dated: August 10, 2004
For: SURGICAL STAPLING DEVICE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

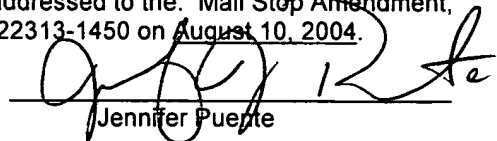
Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

The references listed were previously cited and submitted in the parent application, U.S. Application Serial No. 09/687,815, filed October 13, 2000. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and 35 U.S.C. §120, copies of the references can be obtained in the above-identified application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 10, 2004.

Dated: August 10, 2004


Jennifer Puente

08/12/2004 CCHAU1 00000052 10783126

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The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

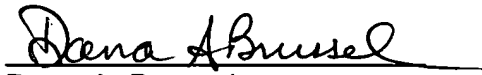
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☒ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.
- TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.**

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to
patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dana A. Brussel", written over a horizontal line.

Dana A. Brussel

Reg. No.: 45,717

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DAB/jjp

Form PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
2666 CON (203-2709 CON)SERIAL NO.
10/783,126

APPLICANTS David C. Racenet et al.

FILING DATE
February 20, 2004GROUP ART UNIT
3721INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	Des.	283,733	05/86	Rawson et al.			
	Des.	273,513	04/84	Spreckelmeier			
		2,174,219	03/39	Balma			
		3,079,606	03/63	Bobrov et al.			
		3,080,564	03/63	Strekopytov et al.			
		3,252,643	05/66	Strekopytov et al.			
		3,269,630	08/66	Fleischer			
		3,317,105	05/67	Astafjev et al.			
		3,494,533	02/70	Green et al.			
		3,692,224	09/72	Astafiev et al.			
		3,795,034	03/74	Strekopytov et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		WO 83/02247	07/83	EPO				
		2542188	09/84	France				
		2141066	12/84	Great Britain				
		0136950	04/85	EPO				
		0220029	04/87	EPO				
		0273468	07/88	EPO				
		0537571	04/93	EPO				

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Information Booklet for Auto Suture, Poly CS-57, Disposable Surgical Stapler, 1988, USSC
		Proximate, RL Plus Reloadable Linear Stapler, instructions

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2666 CON (203-2709 CON)	SERIAL NO. 10/783,126
	APPLICANTS David C. Racenet et al.	
	FILING DATE February 20, 2004	GROUP ART UNIT 3721

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,822,818	07/74	Strekopytov et al.			
		4,047,654	09/77	Alvarado			
		4,216,891	08/80	Behlke			
		4,244,372	01/81	Kapitanov et al.			
		4,296,881	10/81	Lee			
		4,305,539	12/81	Korolkov et al.			
		4,354,628	10/82	Green			
		4,378,901	04/83	Akopov et al.			
		4,383,634	05/83	Green			
		4,402,445	09/83	Green			
		4,442,964	04/84	Becht			
		4,470,533	09/84	Schuler			
		4,475,679	10/84	Fleury, Jr.			
		4,506,670	03/85	Crossley			
		4,506,671	03/85	Green			
		4,508,253	04/85	Green			
		4,513,746	04/85	Aranyi et al.			
		4,520,817	06/85	Green			
		4,522,327	06/85	Korthoff et al.			
		4,527,724	07/85	Chow et al.			
		4,530,453	07/85	Green			
		4,566,620	01/86	Green et al.			
		4,568,009	02/86	Green			
		4,573,622	03/86	Green et al.			
		4,580,712	04/86	Green			
		4,585,153	04/86	Failla et al.			

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		4,589,582	05/86	Bilotti			
		4,591,085	05/86	DiGiovanni			
		4,605,004	08/86	DiGiovanni et al.			
		4,606,344	08/86	DiGiovanni			
		4,606,345	08/86	Dorband et al.			
		4,607,636	08/86	Kula et al.			
		4,612,933	09/86	Brinkerhoff et al.			
		4,617,928	10/86	Alfrance			
		4,632,290	12/86	Green et al.			
		4,635,634	01/87	Santos			
		4,665,916	05/87	Green			
		4,684,051	08/87	Akopov et al.			
		4,714,187	12/87	Green			
		4,715,520	12/87	Roehr, Jr. et al.			
		4,728,020	03/88	Green et al.			
		4,741,336	05/88	Failla et al.			
		4,767,044	08/88	Green			
		4,788,978	12/88	Strekopytov et al.			
		4,802,614	02/89	Green et al.			
		4,805,823	02/89	Rothfuss			
		4,809,898	03/89	Gassner et al.			
		4,819,853	04/89	Green			
		4,848,637	07/89	Pruitt			
		4,869,414	09/89	Green et al.			
		4,881,544	11/89	Green et al.			
		4,881,545	11/89	Isaacs et al.			

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		4,915,100	04/90	Green			
		4,930,503	06/90	Pruitt			
		4,938,408	07/90	Bedi et al.			
		4,941,623	07/90	Pruitt			
		4,951,861	08/90	Schulze et al.			
		4,964,559	10/90	Deniega et al.			
		5,005,754	04/91	Van			
		5,018,657	05/91	Pedlick et al.			
		5,027,834	07/91	Pruitt			
		5,071,052	12/91	Rodak et al.			
		5,100,042	03/92	Gravener et al.			
		5,116,349	05/92	Aranyi			
		5,137,198	08/92	Nobis et al.			
		5,172,845	12/92	Tejeiro			
		5,190,203	03/93	Rodak			
		5,219,111	06/93	Bilotti et al.			
		5,222,963	06/93	Brinkerhoff et al.			
		5,240,163	08/93	Stein et al.			
		5,344,060	09/94	Gravener et al.			
		5,368,599	11/94	Hirsch et al.			
		5,395,034	03/95	Allen et al.			
		5,405,073	04/95	Porter			
		5,413,267	05/95	Solnyhtjes et al.			
		5,439,155	08/95	Viola			
		5,445,304	08/95	Plyley et al.			
		5,452,836	09/95	Huitema et al.			
		5,458,279	10/95	Plyley			
		5,462,215	10/95	Viola et al.			

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		5,464,144	11/95	Guy et al.			
		5,465,894	11/95	Clark et al.			
		5,470,006	11/95	Rodak			
		5,470,008	11/95	Rodak			
		5,470,009	11/95	Rodak			
		5,480,089	01/96	Blewett			
		5,503,320	04/96	Webster et al.			
		5,509,596	04/96	Green et al.			
		5,542,594	08/96	McKean et al.			
		5,547,117	08/96	Hamblin et al.			
		5,558,266	09/96	Green et al.			
		5,579,978	12/96	Green et al.			
		5,580,067	12/96	Hamblin et al.			
		5,603,443	02/97	Clark et al.			
		5,605,272	02/97	Witt et al.			
		5,605,273	01/97	Hamblin et al.			
		5,607,094	03/97	Clark et al.			
		5,615,820	04/97	Viola			
		5,641,111	06/97	Ahrens et al.			
		5,673,842	10/97	Bittner et al.			
		5,678,748	10/97	Plyley et al.			
		5,697,543	12/97	Burdoff			
		5,706,445	01/98	Green et al.			
		5,706,998	01/98	Plyley et al.			
		5,732,871	03/98	Clark et al.			
		5,735,445	04/98	Vidal et al.			
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